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REMARKS

Claims 1-10 are currently pending in the application. By this amendment, claims 1 and 5 are amended. The support for the amendment may be found at least at page 4, line 7.

Reconsideration of the rejected claims in view of the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Objection to Drawings

The drawings were objected to for having lines, numbers and letters not uniformly thick and well defined, clean, durable and black (poor line quality). In response, Applicant submits, herewith, amended Figure 2 with lines and letters uniformly thick and well defined.

35 U.S.C. §102 Rejection

Claims 1-2 and 5-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) for being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,233,619 issued to Narisi et al. ("Narisi"). This rejection is respectively traversed.

The invention is directed to a lightweight, stackless, method and system to provide inter process communication (IPC) between processors in a network. Software enabled functions provide for opening and closing inter process communication paths for transmitting and receiving communication frames in the network environment. The software functions may select either data or control paths to transmit or receive the frames. The invention provides light-weight IPC protocol and does not require a stack on each processor to accomplish the IPC. In previous methods, layers of software stacks were employed to enable IPC communication between processors in a network environment. These stacks are expensive and require additional management. The invention also provides headers in communication frames to exchange various frame formats. The inter process communication frames include guided frames.

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Claim 1 and 5 has been amended to include the recitation:

"wherein the inter process communication frames include guided frames"

Narisi does not show at least this feature. Narisi is directed to a system that enables a first network application on a first system to communicate with a second system application over interconnection using native mechanisms rather conventional network communications such as TCP/IP. The Narisi invention also provides a messaging subsystem (MSS) which provides general purpose transport interfaces between the systems using a dialog. The MSS function includes means for performing management functions such as establish and receive information about dialogs. The MSS also includes a means for passing data and control information over the dialogs.

However, Narisis does not teach inter process communication frames that include guided frames as taught by the invention and recited in claims 1 and 5. Since the cited reference does not teach all the features of the claimed invention, Applicants submit that the §102(e) rejection should now be withdrawn, and claims 1 and 5 should now be allowed.

Since claims 2 and 6 depend from independent claims 1 and 5, respectively, Applicant submits that the dependent claims are allowable at least for this reason.

35 U.S.C. §103 Rejection

Claims 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) for being unpatentable over Narisi. Claims 3-4 and 7-8 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Narisi in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,802,278 to Isfeld, et al. ("Isfeld"). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

In order to reject a claim under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), MPEP 2143, states, in part:

"To establish a *prima facie* case of obviousness,... there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine the reference teachings.... Finally, the <u>prior art reference</u> (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all of the claimed limitations."

Dependent claims 9 and 10 depend from independent claim 5. Since claim 5 is a distinguishable independent claim, as argued above, the dependent claims 9 and 10 are also allowable, at least because of their dependency. Applicant thus requests the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of claims 9 and 10.

Additionally, dependent claims 2-4 and 7-8 depend from independent claims 1 and 5, respectively, and are at least allowable due to their dependency from distinguishable independent claims 1 and 5, respectively. Applicant thus requests the withdrawal of the §103(a) rejection of these claims.

Also, it is submitted in any event, that Isfeld is directed to a high performance scalable networking bridge/router system for interconnecting a plurality of networks including an internet protocol. Isfeld does not supply the missing feature of Narisi. Thus, this reference would not be applicable to any rejection of the independent claims.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant submits that all of the claims are patentably distinct from the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. The Examiner is respectfully requested to pass the above application to issue. The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below, if needed. Applicant hereby makes a written conditional petition for extension of time, if required. Please charge any deficiencies in fees and credit any overpayment of fees to IBM's Deposit Account No. 50-0563.

Respectfully submitted,

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